PTO/SB/21 (02-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 10/814,214 Filing Date **TRANSMITTAL** March 31, 2004 First Named Inventor **FORM** Vincent P. Nero Art Unit N/A (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** Not Yet Assigned Attorney Docket Number 5 Total Number of Pages in This Submission 25191-00043 ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) After Allowance communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board of Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC Amendment/Reply Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a After Final **Proprietary Information** Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Extension of Time Request Terminal Disclaimer Х Identify below): SB/08 **Express Abandonment Request** Request for Refund Transmittal Cert. of Mailing Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s) return postcard Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remarks Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm JENKENS & GILCHRIST, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION John R. Kirk, Jr., Reg. No. 24,477 Individual name Signature Date

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Docket No.: 25191-00043

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Vincent P. Nero et al.

Application No.: 10/814,214

Confirmation No.:

Filed: March 31, 2004

Art Unit: N/A

For:

PRE-TREATMENT OF HYDROCARBON

OI

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

All references are to U.S. documents; therefore, no copies are attached.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

Application No.: 10/814,214 Docket No.: 25191-00043

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 10-0447, under Order No. 25191-00043.

Dated: 7 - 7 - 04

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Kirk, Jr.

Registration No.: 24,477

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|---------------------------------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------------|--|
| | | | | Application Number | 10/814,214 | |
| 11 | INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | Filing Date | March 31, 2004 | |
| S | | | | First Named Inventor | Vincent P. Nero | |
| | | | | Art Unit | N/A | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 25191-00043 | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
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| Examiner | Cite | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages | ⊤ 6 |
| Initials* | No.' | Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | or Relevant Figures Appear | Ŀ |

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Application No. (if known): 10/814,214

Attorney Docket No.: 25191-00043

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